

EJL

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/643,869	KITAGAWA, TSUYOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	James R. Scott	2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to PAPERS FILED 12/09/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 April 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

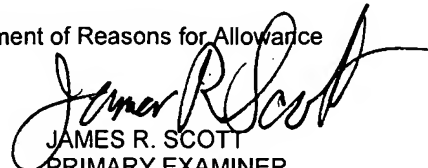
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


 JAMES R. SCOTT
 PRIMARY EXAMINER
 GAU 2832

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Specification

Amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3 and ending on page 2, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The depression switch conventionally includes a key top which is provided below the operating member so as to penetrate a bottom plate portion of the case and to be movable in a vertical direction, a dome-shaped movable contact piece which is placed below the key top and is elastically deformed when being depressed by the key top descending in accordance with the depression operation of the operating member and a fixed electrode assembly which [is a] consists of an outer contact piece formed on the substrate engaged by [and in which] an end portion of the movable contact piece and an inner contact piece which is fixed and is engaged by the central portion of the elastically deformed movable contact piece contact [(see Patent Publication 1)] .

[(Patent Publication 1)] Note Japanese Patent Publication Application Laid-Open (JP-A) 2001-84876 (pages 4 to 5, Figs. 1 and 7).

Drawings

The replacement sheets filed on 4/22/2005 are acceptable as replacements for the original drawings.

Cited References

The cited Japanese patent document corresponds to the Japanese Patent Publication mentioned on page 2 of the specification. U.S. Patent No. 6,344,620 corresponds to this aforementioned Japanese Patent Publication. The U.S. patent was found in a search in the STN-CAS commercial database.

Summary

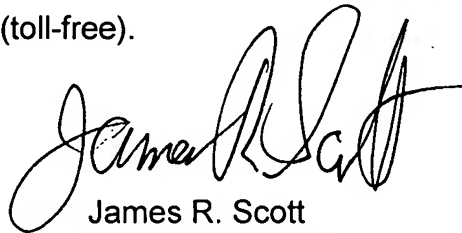
Claims 1-10 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Scott whose telephone number is (571) 272-1999. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 1-5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin G. Enad can be reached on (571) 272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JRScott: jrs
May 9, 2005
Attachment: clean copy of amended
Paragraph beginning on
page 2, line 3 and ending on
page 2, line 16



James R. Scott
Primary Examiner
GAU 2832

Clean Copy of Amended Portion of the Specification

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3 and ending on page 2, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The depression switch conventionally includes a key top which is provided below the operating member so as to penetrate a bottom plate portion of the case and to be movable in a vertical direction, a dome-shaped movable contact piece which is placed below the key top and is elastically deformed when being depressed by the key top descending in accordance with the depression operation of the operating member and a fixed electrode assembly which consists of an outer contact piece formed on the substrate engaged by an end portion of the movable contact piece and an inner contact piece which is fixed and is engaged by the central portion of the elastically deformed movable contact piece contact. Note Japanese Patent Publication Application Laid-Open (JP-A) 2001-84876 (pages 4 to 5, Figs. 1 and 7).